

Editor's foreword

The reader is holding a collection of portraits in his or her hand in which seven men, seven intellectuals with a Christian, national set of values share their thoughts in the form of airy and informal conversations: two Hungarian historians, a doctor, an orientalist academician, an economist professor, a theater director, and a journalist.

The interviews took place over a period of roughly six months starting in the spring of 2017 and the date explains why Miklós Kásler (current minister of Human Capacities since the spring of 2018) is consistently addressed as “Professor” in his interview.

Although last year the edited version of the texts has been published online, in this volume the conversations are presented in their full lengths which means that the public have not yet read them in their current form. As far as the order of the interviews, we have decided that instead of putting them in alphabetical order, we would keep the chronology in which they took place because during the conversations the interviewees often referred to previous discussions.

I would hereby like to thank all those who have supported the publishing of this manuscript: Ádám Batthyány for the foreword, Margó Batthyány-Schmidt for the tiresome work she has done to relieve me from the burdens of organization and planning, and the Batthyány Family Heritage Foundation for making the publishing possible. I would like to thank Professor László Gulyás who played a significant role in the organization of publishing and in coordinating with the printing house. I would certainly like to thank the seven interview partners who handled my naive, sometimes provocative, at times cheeky questions with patience and understanding. Special thanks to Professor Lentner for his endurance as he really had his work cut out for him having to make a humanities scholar understand the basic principles of economy.

Finally, I would like to thank my mother for raising and supporting me, for believing in me through it all, and for accepting that having to fight is never pleasant, but sometimes, or often – depending on the path God has drawn out for us – it is inevitable.

Szilvia Polgári